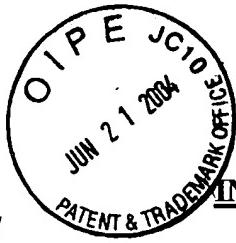


Docket No.
126688/0037



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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: **Douglas G. Evans, et al.**

Group Art Unit: **3731**

Application No.: **10/633,254**

Examiner: **Not Yet Known**

Filed: **August 1, 2003**

For: **SELF-ANCHORING SLING AND INTRODUCER SYSTEM**

Date: **June 18, 2004**

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING
BY "FIRST CLASS MAIL" (37 C.F.R. § 1.8)**

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

I hereby certify that the following correspondence:

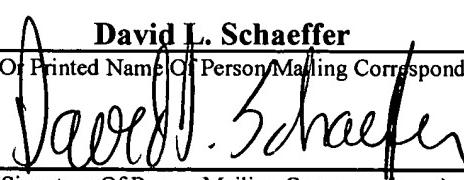
Return Postcard; Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement (2 pgs); Form PTO/SB/08a (1 pg.); and 2 References

is being deposited on June 18, 2004 with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope bearing sufficient postage thereon and addressed to:

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PO Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.**

David L. Schaeffer

(Typed Or Printed Name Of Person Mailing Correspondence)



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David L. Schaeffer".

(Signature Of Person Mailing Correspondence)



Atty. Docket No.: 126688/0037

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: **Douglas G. Evans, et al.**

Serial No.: **10/633,254** Art Unit: **3731**

Filed: **August 1, 2003** Examiner: **Not Yet Known**

For: **SELF-ANCHORING SLING AND INTRODUCER SYSTEM**

June 18, 2004

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant form (PTO/SB/08a).

Copies of the listed foreign references are enclosed. Copies of the cited U.S. references have not been provided, in accordance with the Notice entitled "Information Disclosure Statements May Be Filed Without Copies of U.S. Patents and Published Applications in Patent Applications filed after June 30, 2003" set forth at 1276 O.G. 55.¹ The present application, it should be noted, was filed after June 30, 2003, on August 1, 2003.

¹ The relevant portion of that Notice reads:

Waiver

The Office hereby waives the requirement under 37 CFR 1.98 (a)(2)(i) for submitting a copy of each cited U.S. patent and each U.S. patent application publication for all U.S. national patent applications filed after June 30, 2003 and for all international applications that have entered the national stage under 35 USC 371 after June 30, 2003. See 37 CFR 1.491(b). For all patent applications filed on or before June 30, 2003, copies of cited U.S. patents and patent application publications are still required unless an eIDS is filed.

This Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is being cited in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3), to the best of the undersigned's knowledge, before the mailing of an Office Action, and so no fee is believed to be due.

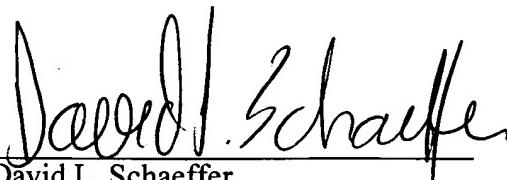
Nevertheless, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee which may be required for the filing of this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement, as well as any other fee which may now or hereafter be due, to Deposit Account No. 19-4709.

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that an initialed copy of the enclosed Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant form (PTO/SB/08a) be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Favorable consideration and prompt allowance of this application is respectfully requested. In the event that there are any questions, or should additional information be required, please do not hesitate to contact applicants' attorney at the number listed below.

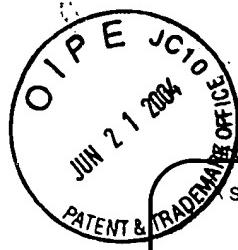
Respectfully submitted,

By



David L. Schaeffer
Reg. No. 32,716
Attorney for Applicant
Stroock & Stroock & Lavan LLP
180 Maiden Lane
New York, New York 10038-4982
(212) 806-5400

Applicants are still required to submit copies of foreign patent documents and non-patent literature in accordance with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2).



PTO/SB/08a (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Shee

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Complete if Known

Complete if Known	
Application Number	10/633,254
Filing Date	August 1, 2003
First Named Inventor	Douglas G. Evans, et al.
Art Unit	3731
Examiner Name	Not Yet Known
Attorney Docket Number	126688/0037

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		WO 2004/016196 A2	02-26-2004	Scimed Life Sys.	(Eng. Orig.)	
		WO 2004/019786 A1	03-11-2004	Univer. De Liege	(Eng. Orig.)	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.